

Who was the first resident of Miami Beach?

Probably it was William J. Smith, keeper of the Biscayne House of Refuge, built in 1876 to "afford succor to shipwrecked persons..."

Other early residents included Capt. Richard Carney, a stockholder in the company that planted coconuts on what is now Miami Beach, and Charles Lum, one of the company directors.

The Carney and Lum houses were erected in 1882 and Mrs. Lum spent the first three years of her married life here.